CLAIMS

1. A method comprising:

receiving a document to be rendered, the document including a first element that has standard content and is focusable and a second element that has both standard and alternate content and is not focusable;

generating a list of focusable elements associated with the document, such that the list includes the first element, but does not include the second element;

rendering the document such that the standard content associated with the first element is rendered and the standard content associated with the second element is rendered;

receiving an indication of a viewer's intent to activate an accessibility mode; and

altering the list of focusable elements to include the second element.

2. The method as recited in claim 1 wherein the document comprises a hypertext markup language document.

3. The method as recited in claim 1 wherein the second element comprises a text element.

4. The method as recited in claim 1 wherein the second element comprises an image element.

5.   The method as recited in claim 1 wherein the second element comprises an audio element.

6.   The method as recited in claim 1 wherein the second element comprises a multimedia element.

7.   The method as recited in claim 1 wherein the alternate content comprises text.

8.   The method as recited in claim 1 wherein the alternate content comprises image data.

9.   The method as recited in claim 1 wherein the alternate content comprises audio data.

10.   The method as recited in claim 1 wherein the alternate content comprises multimedia data.

11.   The method as recited in claim 1 wherein the alternate content comprises a second document that can be rendered.

12.   The method as recited in claim 1, further comprising rendering the alternate content associated with the second element.

13. The method as recited in claim 12 wherein the rendering the alternate content is performed in response to receiving an indication that the second element has been selected.

14. The method as recited in claim 13 wherein the indication that the second element has been selected comprises an indication that the element has focus.

15. The method as recited in claim 12 wherein the rendering the alternate content comprises replacing the standard content that was rendered with a rendering of the alternate content.

16. The method as recited in claim 12 wherein the rendering the alternate content comprises rendering the alternate content in a new browser interface window.

17. The method as recited in claim 1 further comprising rendering a visual demarcation to indicate an accessibility mode state.

18. The method as recited in claim 17 wherein the visual demarcation is an icon.

19. The method as recited in claim 1 further comprising rendering an audio demarcation to indicate an accessibility mode state.

20. A browser application configured to perform the method as recited in claim 1.

21. A rendering engine configured to perform the method as recited in claim 1.

22. An interactive television viewing system configured to perform the method as recited in claim 1.

23. One or more computer-readable media comprising computer executable instructions that, when executed, direct a computing system to perform the method as recited in claim 1.

24. A method comprising:

receiving a document having one or more elements, individual elements having standard content and having associated alternate content that can be rendered in an accessibility mode of operation;

in an event that the accessibility mode is not active, rendering the standard content associated with each of the elements; and

in an event that the accessibility mode is active, rendering the alternate content associated with at least one of the elements.

25. A method comprising:

generating a list of focusable elements associated with a document to be rendered such that individual focusable elements can be selected for activation by a user;

identifying, in the document, an element with associated alternate content; and

in an event that the element is not included in the list of focusable elements, adding the element to the list of focusable elements.

26. The method as recited in claim 25 wherein the identifying and adding are performed in response to receiving an indication that an accessibility mode is active.

27. The method as recited in claim 25 wherein the element comprises a text element.

28. The method as recited in claim 27 wherein the alternate content comprises audio that is associated with the text element.

29. The method as recited in claim 27 wherein the alternate content comprises multimedia data that is associated with the text element.

30. The method as recited in claim 27 wherein the alternate content comprises text and an easy to read font.

31. The method as recited in claim 25 wherein the element comprises an image element.

32. The method as recited in claim 31 wherein the alternate content comprises a textual description of the image element.

33. The method as recited in claim 31 wherein the alternate content comprises an audio description of the image element.

34. The method as recited in claim 31 wherein the alternate content comprises a multimedia description of the image element.

35. The method as recited in claim 25 wherein the alternate content comprises text.

36. The method as recited in claim 25 wherein the document is a web page that may be rendered using a browser application.

37. The method as recited in claim 25 wherein the document comprises a hypertext markup language document.

38. The method as recited in claim 25 wherein the document comprises a dynamic hypertext markup language document.

39.   A browser application configured to perform the method as recited in claim 25.

40.   A rendering engine configured to perform the method as recited in claim 25.

41.   One or more computer-readable media comprising computer executable instructions that, when executed, direct a computing system to perform the method as recited in claim 25.

42.   A method comprising:

identifying an element that is included in a list of focusable elements associated with a document that can be rendered, wherein the element, by default, is not a focusable element; and

removing the element from the list of focusable elements.

43.   The method as recited in claim 42 wherein the identifying and removing are performed in response to receiving an indication that an accessibility mode is inactive.

44. An interactive television viewing system comprising:

a display device; and

a client device configured to render an interactive document and provide access to alternate content associated with one or more elements of the document by altering a default list of focusable elements.

45. The interactive television viewing system as recited in claim 44 wherein the display device comprises a television.

46. The interactive television viewing system as recited in claim 44 wherein the display device comprises a computer monitor.

47. The interactive television viewing system as recited in claim 44 wherein the client device comprises a television set-top box.

48. The interactive television viewing system as recited in claim 44 further comprising:

an input device configured to notify the client device of a viewer intent to activate an accessibility mode.

49. The interactive television viewing system as recited in claim 48 wherein the input device is further configured to:

notify the client device of a viewer intent to deactivate an accessibility mode.

50. The interactive television viewing system as recited in claim 48 wherein the input device is further configured to:

notify the client device of a viewer intent to remove rendered alternate content from a display.

51. The interactive television viewing system as recited in claim 48 wherein the input device comprises a television remote control.

52. A television remote control device comprising:

a power button configured to turn one or more components of an interactive television viewing system set on and off;

channel navigation buttons configured to direct to the television viewing system to tune to a different channel; and

an accessibility button configured to direct the television viewing system to toggle in and out of an accessibility mode that provides access to alternate content associated with elements of a document that may be rendered.

53. A system comprising:

a rendering engine configured to visually render documents with associated focusable elements and to render standard or alternate content associated with one or more of the focusable elements according to an accessibility mode; and

a display interface for communicating documents and alternate content that are rendered to a display device.

54.   The system as recited in claim 53, wherein the rendering engine comprises:

a focusable element identifier for determining which of a plurality of elements associated with a document are focusable; and

a content selector for determining which of a plurality of content associated with an element is to be rendered.

55.   A system comprising:

means for rendering documents, the documents each comprising a plurality of elements that may have associated standard content and associated alternate content;

means for modifying a list of focusable elements associated with a document to be rendered; and

means for selecting a content to render in association with an element, the content selected from standard and alternate content associated with the element.

56.   The system as recited in claim 55 further comprising:

means for indicating the state of an accessibility mode.

57. One or more computer-readable media comprising computer executable instructions that, when executed, direct a computing system to:

determine a list of focusable elements associated with a document to be rendered;

determine that the document is to be rendered in an accessibility mode;

alter the list of focusable elements to include elements that have associated alternate content;

visually render the document such that standard content associated with each element is rendered and each element on the list of focusable elements can be selected;

receive an indication that an element has been selected; and

in an event that the element has associated alternate content, render the alternate content.

58. The one or more computer-readable media as recited in claim 57 further comprising computer executable instructions that, when executed, direct a computing system to:

visually indicate which element associated with the document currently has focus; and

visually indicate whether or not the element that currently has focus has associated alternate content that may be rendered.

59.   The one or more computer-readable media as recited in claim 58 further comprising computer executable instructions that, when executed, direct a computing system to visually indicate which element associated with the document currently has focus by displaying a focus indicator encircling the element.

60.   The one or more computer-readable media as recited in claim 58 further comprising computer executable instructions that, when executed, direct a computing system to visually indicate whether or not the element that currently has focus has associated alternate content that may be rendered by:

displaying a focus indicator of a first color encircling the element if the element does not have associated alternate content that may be rendered; and

displaying a focus indicator of a second color encircling the element if the element does have associated alternate content that may be rendered.

61.   The one or more computer-readable media as recited in claim 58 further comprising computer executable instructions that, when executed, direct a computing system to visually indicate whether or not the element that currently has focus has associated alternate content that may be rendered by:

displaying a focus indicator of a first style encircling the element if the element does not have associated alternate content that may be rendered; and

displaying a focus indicator of a second style encircling the element if the element does have associated alternate content that may be rendered.

62.   The one or more computer-readable media as recited in claim 57 further comprising computer executable instructions that, when executed, direct a computing system to:

receive an indication that the element has been selected a second time; and

in an event that the element has a second associated alternate content, render the second alternate content.

63.   The one or more computer-readable media as recited in claim 57 further comprising computer executable instructions that, when executed, direct a computing system to:

receive an indication that the element has been de-selected; and

render a standard content associated with the element.

64.   One or more computer-readable media comprising computer executable instructions that, when executed, direct a computing system to:

determine a list of focusable elements associated with a document to be rendered; and

alter the list of focusable elements based on a state of an accessibility mode.

65.   The one or more computer-readable media as recited in claim 64 further comprising computer executable instructions that, when executed, direct the computing system to:

alter the list of focusable elements by adding an element to the list of focusable elements if the element has associated alternate content.

66.   The one or more computer-readable media as recited in claim 64 further comprising computer executable instructions that, when executed, direct the computing system to:

alter the list of focusable elements by removing an element from the list of focusable elements if the element has associated alternate content and is not focusable by default.